# THE LITTLEST BOOK OF BIRDS

Ragged Bears

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Edited by Jonathan Roth
with colour illustrations
by Elly Christoffel

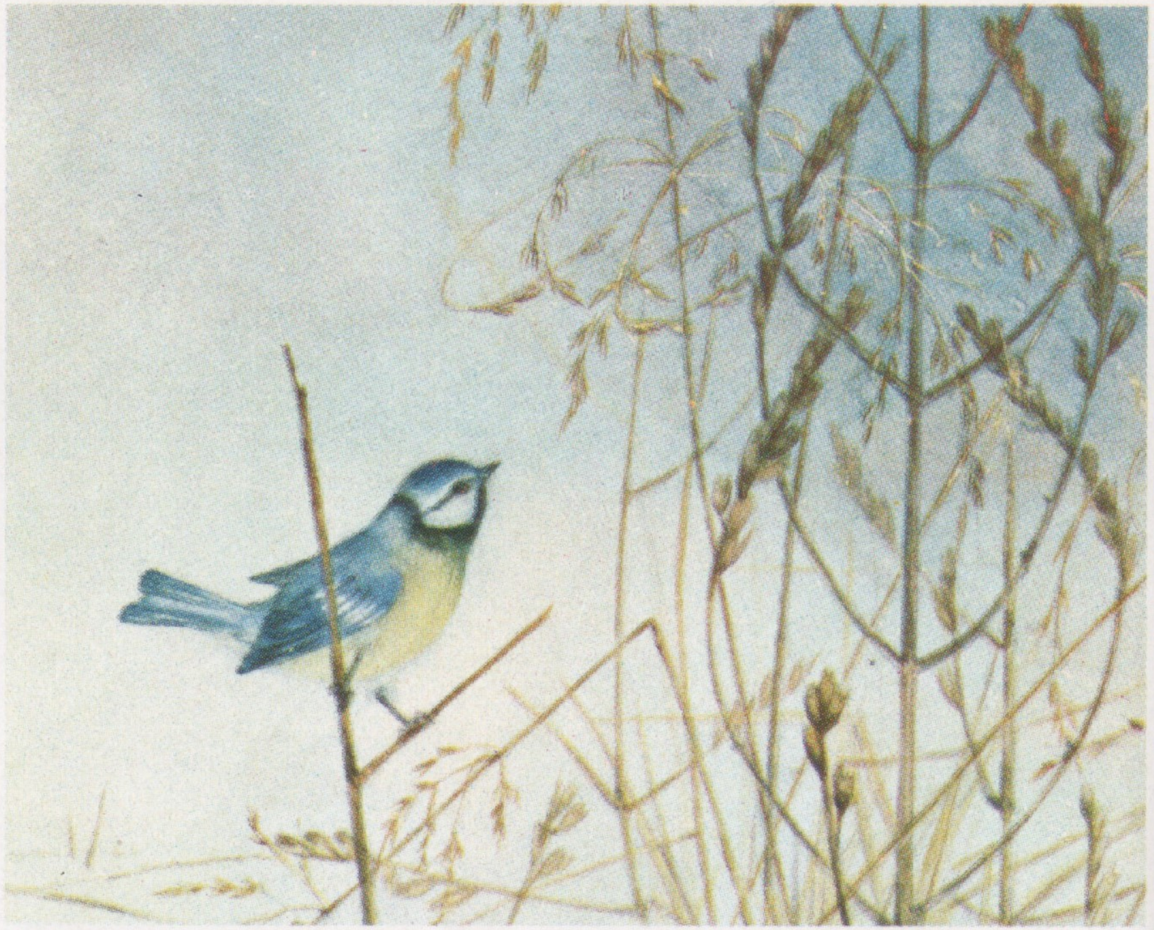
Ragged Bears

O birds, your perfect
virtues bring,
Your song, your forms,
your rhythmic flight,
Your manners for the
heart's delight,
Nestle in hedge, or barn
or roof,
Here weave your chamber
weather-proof.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

The time of singing birds
is come.

Song of Solomon



Sing on, sing on, blithe bird!
and fill
My heart with summer gladness.

William Motherwell

The little wild birds have
come flying
From beyond the sea,
the blue sea;
The little birds go fluttering
About the bushes, over
the open field;
All have their mates
and rejoice in love.

Russian folk song

Listen, the sweet birds jargoning
From tree to tree.

Jean Passerat

Listen to the little bird's voice,
he has filled the whole thicket
with honeyed song.

Aristophanes

Soar, bird, fling wide
That song of birds in deserts born!

Friedrich Nietzsche

Within a budding grove,
In April's ear sang every bird his best.

William Allingham

Hear the notes
Of birds with sunset
Shaking on their throats.

Louis Untermeyer

And the loveliest lyric
I ever heard
Was the wildwood strain
of a forest bird.

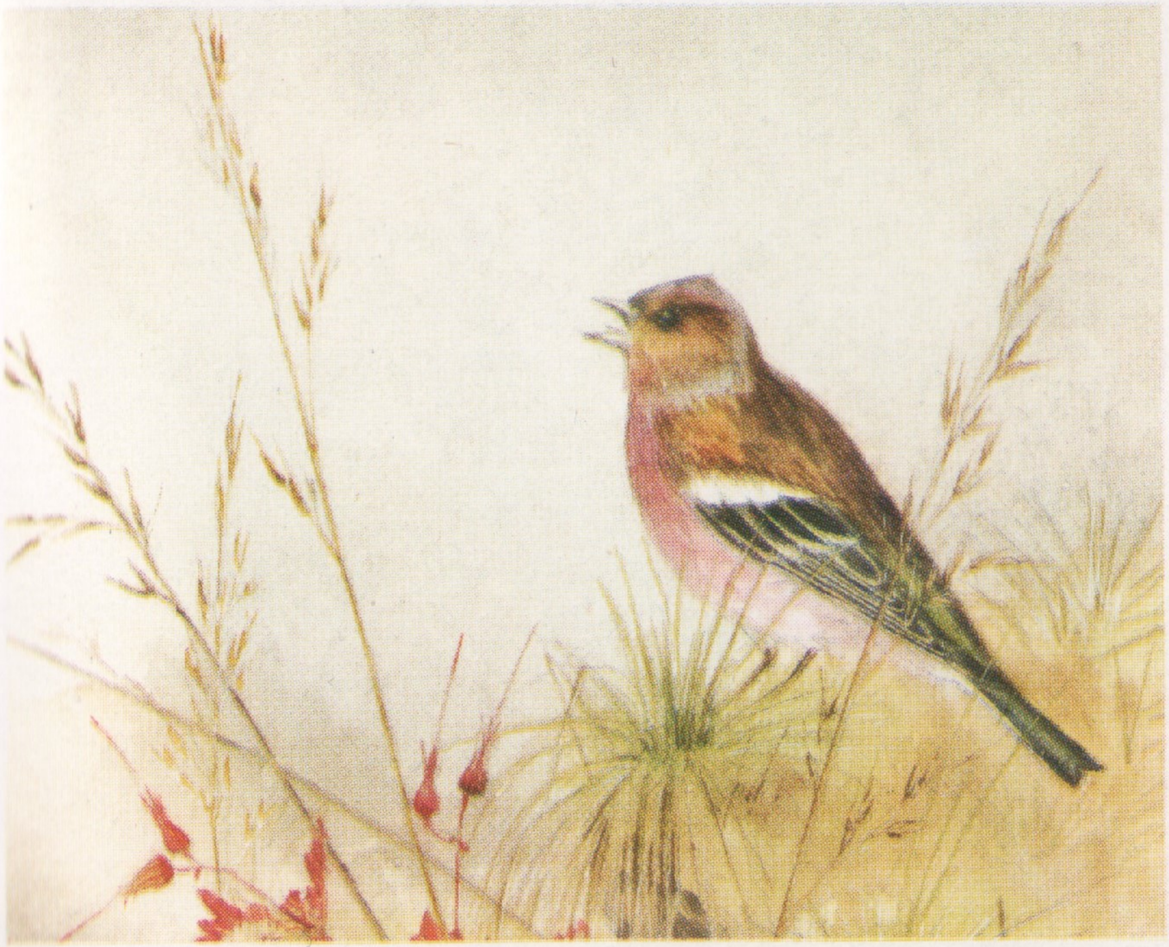
Madison Cawein

Sweet bird, that shunn'st the
noise of folly,
Most musical, most melancholy!

John Milton

Birds delight
Day and night
Nightingale
In the dale,
Lark in sky,
Merrily
Merrily, merrily to welcome
in the year.

William Blake



Thou hast no sorrow
in thy song.
No winter in thy year.

John Logan

My heart is like
a singing bird . . .

Christina Rossetti

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The Littlest Book for the Heart
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